

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 25-29:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for exchanging information between entities on a network comprising:
 - identifying a plurality of data elements capable of being instantiated by a plurality of applications on the network and to which global annotations may be anchored;
 - providing one or more interfaces for creating global annotations anchored to a selected one or more of the identified data elements, wherein a first one of the interfaces for creating global annotations is accessible from a first application capable of instantiating identified data elements in a first type of document; and
 - providing one or more interfaces for viewing, from one or more applications, the global annotations, wherein a first one of the interfaces for viewing the global annotations is accessible from a second application capable of instantiating identified data elements in a second type of document different than the first type of document.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more interfaces for creating global annotations comprises at least one application for creating graphical user interfaces.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second applications comprise a data analysis application.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second applications comprise a text editor.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising adding entries to a registry for each of the identified data element.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein providing the one or more interfaces for viewing, from at least the second application, global annotations created from the first application comprises:
- parsing data loaded by the second application into discrete data elements; and
 - searching the registry for entries corresponding to the discrete data elements.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein providing one or more interfaces for creating global annotations anchored to selected annotatable data elements from at least the first application comprises:
- selecting an annotation structure associated with a selected annotatable data element; and
 - generating a graphical user interface based on the selected annotation structure.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
- allowing a user to view details regarding the context in which a global annotation was created.
10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein allowing a user to view details regarding the context in which the global annotation was created comprises providing a link to a document containing a data element to which the global annotation is anchored.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying the plurality of data elements comprises identifying categories of data elements to which global annotations may be anchored.
12. (Previously Presented) A method for creating global annotations, comprising:
- loading a first set of data with a first application;
 - identifying one or more data elements contained in the first set of data to which global annotations can be anchored;
 - providing a first interface allowing a user to create a global annotation for a selected one of the identified data elements;

providing a second interface allowing the user to view the global annotation from within a second application loading a second set of data containing the selected data element for which the global annotation was created; and

storing the global annotation created via the first interface in an annotation store, wherein the global annotation is anchored to the selected data element.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the global annotation is anchored to the selected data element via association with a global identifier generated for the selected data object.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein identifying one or more data elements in the loaded data to which global annotations can be anchored comprises:
parsing the loaded data into parsed data elements; and
searching a registry of annotatable data elements for matches to the parsed data elements.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein parsing the loaded data into parsed data elements comprises applying a hashing function to portions of the loaded data.

17. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising highlighting, in the loaded data, the identified data elements to which global annotations can be anchored.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the identified data elements comprise data elements from different categories;
and
the highlighting comprises highlighting data elements from different categories with different colors.

19. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising storing contextual information related to a context in which the global annotation is created.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the contextual information comprises an indication of the loaded data containing the selected data element to which the global annotation is anchored.
21. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the contextual information comprises a link to a document containing the selected data element to which the global annotation is anchored.
22. (Currently Amended) A method for viewing global annotations, comprising:
loading a first set of data with a first application;
identifying one or more data elements in the first set of data to which global annotations have ~~be~~ been anchored;
providing an indication of the identified data elements; and
providing an interface, accessible from the first application, allowing a user to view a global annotation for a selected one of the identified data elements, wherein at least one of the global annotations was previously created from a second application loading a second set of data containing a data element to which the at least one global annotation is anchored.
23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein:
providing an indication of the identified data elements comprises displaying an icon proximate the identified data elements; and
the interface is accessible by selecting the icon.
- 24.- 30. (Cancelled)